

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR IN US YO

SUBJ: VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF INDIA

1. INDIAN CHARGE TOLD DM THAT PRESIDENT AHMED'S OVERALL
VISIT AND SPECIFICALLY HIS TALKS WITH TITO WENT VERY WELL.
SCHEDEDULED TO HAVE ONLY TWO HOURS OF TALKS IN THE MORNING,
THESE WERE CONTINUED FOR ALMOST ANOTHER TWO HOURS IN THE
EVENING SO THAT THE TWO PRESIDENTS COULD FINISH THEIR
DISCUSSIONS. ON THE UNITED STATES, AHMED REVIEWED US
RELATIONS WITH INDIA SINCE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SENT A
SPECIAL ENVOY IN 1943. THE INDIANS WANT GOOD RELATIONS
WITH THE US AND THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND AMERICAN REASONING
WHICH LEADS TO BELATERAL DIFFICULTIES, SINCE BASIC VIEWS
OF THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE THE SAME. THE INDIANS WERE, OF
COURSE, VERY DISTURBED OVER PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT
STATEMENT CONCERNING INDIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT NEVERTHE-
LESS THEY HAD DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH THE JOINT
COMMISSION MEETING BECAUSE THEY DO SINCERELY DESIRE
FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

2. BOTH SIDES WERE DISTURBED OVER THE BREAK IN ARAB
RANKS ON THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION, AND BOTH AGREED
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THAT THE SINAI AGREEMENT MUST ONLY BE THE FIRST STEP

TOWARD PEACE IN THE AREA. THE TWO PRESIDENTS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR NONALIGNED UNITY AND, ACCORDING TO CHARGE, THIS WAS THE BASIC POINT AND THEME OF THE VISIT.

3. REGARDING THE OIL PRICE QUESTION, BOTH SIDES WOULD NOT CRITICIZE ARAB OIL PRODUCERS BECAUSE THEY CONSIDER THEIR GENERAL STAND JUSTIFIED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE 10 PERCENT INCREASE WILL COST INDIA AN ADDITIONAL ONE BILLION RUPEEYFA XHWG. TITO SAID THAT HE HAS FOR SOME TIME TOLD THE ARAB OIL PRODUCERS THAT THEY MUST PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS WHO ARE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY INCREASES IN THE PRICE OF OIL. ON ECONOMIC TOPICS, HOWEVER, THERE WERE NO SPECIFICS.

4. CHARGE NOTED THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAS PRAISED THE "SPECIFIC AND CONCRETE US SUGGESTIONS AND APPROACH" TO THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION.

5. ATMOSPHERICS OF VISIT GOOD. SUBSTANTIAL PRESS PLAY AND CHARGE SAID THAT PRESIDENT AHMED WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH THE RED CARPET TREATMENT HE RECEIVED. FOR EXAMPLE, HE WAS THE FIRST HEAD OF STATE TO VISIT PRISTINA AND THE FIRST TO RECEIVE AN HONORARY DEGREE FROM PRISTINA UNIVERSITY. ACCORDING TO CHARGE, OF THE 80,000 INHABITANTS OF PRISTINA, SOME 50,000 WERE ON THE STREETS TO WELCOME AHMED.

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